

and territorial coral reef Marine Protected Areas, reducing the adverse impact of extractive uses, and reducing habitat destruction.

It is time now to take the Coral Reef Task Force's recommendations and implement them to ensure the comprehensive protection of the coral reef ecosystem of the Northwest Hawaiian Islands through a coordinated effort among the Departments of the Interior and Commerce and the State of Hawaii.

Accordingly, I have determined that it is in the best interest of our Nation, and of future generations, to provide strong and lasting protection for the coral reef ecosystem of the Northwest Hawaiian Islands, and I am directing you to initiate an administrative process to that end. Specifically, I direct you, working cooperatively with the State of Hawaii and consulting with the Western Pacific Fisheries Management Council, to develop recommendations within 90 days for a new, coordinated management regime to increase protection of the ecosystem and provide for sustainable use. Further, I direct that your recommendations address whether appropriate stewardship for the submerged lands and waters of the Northwest Hawaiian Islands warrants exercise of my authority to extend permanent protection to objects of historic or scientific interest or to protect the natural and cultural resources of this important area.

The recommendations should also:

- Review the status and adequacy of all ongoing efforts to protect the coral reef ecosystem, including proposed no-take ecological reserves and the ongoing work of the Western Pacific Fisheries Management Council;
- To the extent permitted by law, ensure that any actions that the Departments of the Interior and Commerce authorize, fund, or carry out will not degrade the conditions of the coral reef ecosystems;
- Identify any further measures necessary to protect cultural and historic resources and artifacts;
- Identify any further measures necessary for the protection of the ecosystem's threatened and endangered species, including the endangered monk seal, sea turtles, and short-tailed albatross;

- Establish a framework for scientific research and exploration;
- Establish a framework for facilitating recreation and tourism in the Northwest Hawaiian Islands consistent with the protection and sustainable management of the ecosystem;
- Provide for culturally significant uses of the Northwest Hawaiian Islands' marine resources by Native Hawaiians; and
- Address the development of a cooperative framework, in consultation with the State of Hawaii and the Western Pacific Fisheries Management Council, to ensure that the goals set forth above will be implemented in a cooperative manner, consistent with existing authorities.

I also direct that during the 90-day period, the Departments shall conduct "visioning" sessions, which would provide opportunities for public hearing and comment to help shape the final recommendations.

With this new effort, we are taking strides to fulfill the goal of the Coral Reef Task Force to protect our precious coral reefs for the benefit of future generations.

William J. Clinton

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this memorandum.

Statement on the Upcoming Elections in Peru

May 26, 2000

I deeply regret the decision by the Peruvian electoral authorities to proceed with the elections this coming Sunday in spite of the well-documented concerns of the OAS observer mission. Even a relatively brief delay would give the OAS mission an opportunity to monitor the electoral process with greater confidence.

As things stand, the OAS mission will not monitor Sunday's vote. I believe that is the correct decision under the circumstances.

Free, fair, and open elections are the foundation of a democratic society. Without them, our relationship with Peru inevitably will be affected.

We are consulting with our partners in the hemisphere and the international community to determine appropriate next steps.

Statement on Federal Compensation for Losses Incurred in the Bandelier National Monument Fire

May 26, 2000

This administration is committed to ensuring that all those who have been affected by the fire that began at Bandelier National* Monument are fully compensated for their losses. At this time, we are working with the New Mexico delegation to craft legislation that would govern Federal compensation and make available the funds needed to pay for this legislation. We are committed to working with the Congress to ensure that this matter is addressed as promptly as possible.

Proclamation 7314—To Modify the Quantitative Limitations Applicable to Imports of Wheat Gluten

May 26, 2000

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

1. On May 30, 1998, pursuant to section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the "Trade Act") (19 U.S.C. 2253), I issued Proclamation 7103, which imposed quantitative limitations on certain wheat gluten imports provided for in subheadings 1109.00.10 and 1109.00.90 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) for a period of 3 years plus 1 day, with annual increases in such quota limits of 6 percent during the second and the third year. I exempted imports of wheat gluten that is the product of certain countries, including designated beneficiary countries under the Generalized System of Preferences ("GSP countries"), from the application of the quantitative limitations.

2. On December 1, 1999, the United States International Trade Commission (USITC) issued a report, as required under section 204(a)(2) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C.

2254(a)(2)), on the results of its monitoring of developments with respect to the domestic wheat gluten industry. The USITC report notes that in the 12-month period prior to the imposition of the quota (June 1, 1997–May 31, 1998), 440,000 pounds of wheat gluten entered the United States from Poland. During the first quota year (June 1, 1998–May 31, 1999), imports from Poland grew to 5,004,000 pounds, or more than eleven times the amount of the previous year, accounting for 2.9 percent of total U.S. imports. The USITC report has been provided to me (Investigation Number TA–204–2). More recent data from the United States Customs Service indicate that in the first 10 months of the second quota year (June 1999–March 2000), imports from Poland totaled 8,965,800 pounds, accounting for 6.9 percent of total U.S. imports.

3. Section 204(b)(1)(A) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2254(b)(1)(A)) authorizes the President, after taking into account the report of the USITC required under section 204(a)(2) of the Trade Act and seeking advice from the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Labor, to reduce, modify, or terminate an action taken under section 203 of the Trade Act when the President determines that changed economic circumstances so warrant.

4. After taking into account the information provided in the USITC's report, and after receiving advice from the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Labor, I have determined, on the basis that increased imports of wheat gluten the product of Poland have impaired the effectiveness of the action I proclaimed in 1998 under section 203 of the Trade Act, that changed economic circumstances warrant a modification in the action. Accordingly, I have decided to include in the action imports of wheat gluten the product of Poland, beginning June 1, 2000.

5. Pursuant to section 203(g) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2253(g)), I have further determined to provide for the efficient and fair administration of the quantitative limitation on imports of wheat gluten by allocating on a quarterly basis the quantitative limitations applicable during the third year of the action.

6. Pursuant to section 503(b)(2) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2463(b)(2)), no article

*White House correction.